

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr BEUMER, Mr HAHN, Mr IRMER, Mr JURGENS,  
Mr PAPAPIETRO, Mr PATTERSON, Mrs PRUVOT, Mr SELIGMAN,  
Mr SIMPSON, Mr GAWRONSKI, Mrs PAUWELYN, Mr NORD,  
Mr CALVEZ, Mr BANGEMANN, Mr PÖTTERING and Mr CECOVINI.

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on co-operation between European universities



The European Parliament,

- A - aware of the growing discussion about the identity of the Community and the possibilities it offers for developing the 'European consciousness' of the people of the Community;
- B - having regard to the discussions in the Council with regard to the initiatives of the German and Italian Foreign Ministers with a view to cultural cooperation between the member countries;
- C - having regard to the need for university education and vocational training which, taking account of the ever closer economic relations within the Community, also dispenses knowledge of the other member countries and their languages and of the new economic, political and social conditions prevailing in the Community;
- D - concerned to improve the occupational opportunities of university graduates who, on embarking upon their careers, are confronted with an already advanced situation of economic integration;
- E - aware of the cooperation models which have already been set up by universities in the Community and which despite great difficulties have already produced excellent results and have thereby achieved recognition in industry;

Calls on the Commission to submit a coherent programme to promote the mobility of university teachers and students laying emphasis on the following areas:

- (1) making courses accessible to applicants from all other EEC States,
- (2) harmonization of the technical conditions of admission for terms of study and practical training (documents and evidence of qualifications, tuition fees, insurance, residence and work permits),
- (3) introduction of a broad EC interface in the content of curricula (inclusion of seminars and material on the EC),
- (4) broad language training with courses on specialized terminology (e.g. commercial French and other Community languages, encouraging

exchanges of university teachers, temporary appointment of foreign students as research assistants or assistant lecturers, scholarships for language courses in smaller EEC countries,

- (5) continuation of the efforts of the European Institutes of Education and Social Policy instructed by the Commission to propose joint study programmes in the European Community,
- (6) Extension of the integrated courses in the universities of the European Community in the light of the experience gained from the current cooperation models, since these integrated courses are an extremely suitable means of achieving the objectives of mobility of students and university teachers, knowledge of foreign languages and the creation of a European consciousness.

For this purpose it is particularly necessary to:

- impart and assess the experience gained with the present models,
  - arrange for mutual recognition of courses and the relevant diplomas,
- (7) Inclusion of the universities of ACP States in cooperation between the universities of the Community with the creation of a system of financing whereby funds from the Convention of Lomé are made available for joint administration.

#### Explanatory statement

- (1) The association of countries known as the European Community has so far primarily pursued economic goals. The growing ties between them however, are making it increasingly clear that to restrict integration to this sphere would be in line neither with political realities nor with the new goals and desires of the people. European action in the field of culture and education is particularly lacking and this is being felt increasingly more acutely. That was indeed the reason why the German and Italian Foreign Ministers demanded an initiative from the Community. The Council is currently discussing the possibilities of cultural cooperation between the member countries. The Commission has also demonstrated its interest and achieved tangible results in specific areas. There is, however, a lack of a coherent programme which, taking into account the steadily increasing relations between the Community countries, would put the Community's universities in a position to develop and offer fuller European

study programmes. The Community must create the conditions enabling it to make use of the experience being gained from current cooperation models.

- (2) In the way of these models stand a whole host of regulations restricting cooperation and mobility and which hamper, and sometimes render impossible, both cooperation between universities on individual projects and periods of study by individuals in other EC countries.

Examples:

- (1) Report by a student on a term of study in Clermont-Ferrand:

For the purposes of issuing a residence permit the French authorities accept neither a birth certificate nor an extract from the family register but demand a so-called 'authenticated extract from the registry of birth, deaths and marriages of the place of birth.'

- (2) A lecture that a visiting university teacher from Greece was due to give on a specific date had to be postponed for one week because the competent body of the university had not met and could not issue the approval for the visit.

Other areas in which regulations exist restricting mobility include:

- Insurance for exchange students and trainees
- Matriculation conditions and fees
- Grant payments and losses of entitlement
- Residence permits and work permits for trainees.

It is therefore urgent to introduce harmonization rules abolishing regulations restricting mobility in the field of education in the European Community.

- (3) It should also be self-evident, and is indeed in the interests of the Community, that universities should offer language courses orientated towards the Community languages. Particular attention should be paid to the languages of the smaller member countries and also to the teaching of technical language. In some cases only minor practical improvements are required to achieve this end.

- The universities could receive sums for the temporary employment of foreign students as research assistants or assistant lecturers.

- Foreign teaching assistants could be appointed on temporary contracts.

In addition, scholarships for language courses could be granted, especially to the smaller countries.

However, the best results can undoubtedly be obtained by means of a programme for the creation of integrated courses of study.

The technical universities of Osnabrück and Reutlingen have, for example, introduced an integrated European course. The structure of these courses is as follows:

Osnabrück: 8 semesters EBS

Basic course: 1st - 3rd semesters in Osnabrück (with 2 x 3 weeks of intensive language courses in Germany, United Kingdom and France)

Main course: 4th semester in Osnabrück, High Wycombe or Clermont-Ferrand  
5th semester practical period in Germany, United Kingdom or France.  
6th to 8th semester, Osnabrück

(the question whether a semester might optionally be spent at other universities is under discussion)

Reutlingen: 8 semesters ESB: choice between German/French and German/English

3 study semesters in both Reutlingen and Reims or London.

1 practical semester in Germany and one in France or United Kingdom

Completion of course attested by diploma in German and French or English

- (4) Other universities in the European Community have also, sometimes with the assistance of the Commission, introduced multi-faceted cooperation projects. Such assistance has, however, been generally restricted to initiating these projects. We must now use the experience that has been gained in order to create a permanent framework for the ongoing financial support of this type of cooperation to ensure that these promising initial efforts are not wasted.
- Certain fundamental items of the curricula lie outside the direct interests of national education policy, precisely because they relate to European Community matters. There is therefore no guarantee that these sections of the curricula will receive financial support from national budgets.

This applies in particular to:

- the introduction of a broad European Community interface in the content of curricula (seminars on the EC, excursions to European Community Institutions, lectures on EC topics etc.) and also in the practical semester (e.g. periods of practical training with the Communities)
- making training courses accessible to applicants from other EC States (with the relevant costs in respect of study places, travel expenses, etc.)
- broad language training with courses on specialized terminology (e.g. commercial French with the inclusion of all the Community languages)
- the extension of programmes to EC-orientated cooperation projects with developing countries, in particular the ACP states.

Cost assessment in respect of the above:

(a) Student mobility

1. - Intensive language courses: (6 Community languages): 6 language teachers for each main region for specialized courses (e.g. commercial French) costing 20,000 ECU/year each      120,000 ECU

- preparation at universities:  
appointment of assistant teachers under the programme of the teacher exchange service  
cost borne by Federation/Länder      -      ECU
- creation of a language centre: (e.g. Osnabrück University and Technical University)  
cost borne by Land      -      ECU
- courses at partner universities  
ordinary costs:      -      ECU  
borne by Länder/students

Additional costs

travel expenses per student	100 ECU	
accommodation per student		
<u>2 x 3 weeks</u>	<u>180 ECU</u>	
Total per student	280 ECU	
Annual total for 200 students		56,000 ECU

(2) European seminars

e.g. as one complete week per semester

ordinary costs to be borne by Länder

additional costs:

travel expenses per student 100 ECU

accommodation per student 30 ECU

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total per student 130 ECU

annual total for 100 students 13,000 ECU

lecturers 2,000 ECU

15,000 ECU

(3) Integrated European study periods

- study semester at a partner university:

ordinary costs borne by Federation/Land/student - ECU

additional costs:

travel expenses 100 ECU

monthly cost per student 400 ECU

cost per student of 5-month

semester abroad 2,100 ECU

Annual total for 200  
students

840,000 ECU

50% own contribution

420,000 ECU

- practical semester in a firm in another

EEC country:

ordinary costs: - ECU

borne by Federation/Land/student

additional costs: per student per month 400 ECU

but

possibility of offsetting these costs with

salaries paid for trainee work, state

allowances and private grants;

need to set up a European Scholarship Fund

- ECU



(b) mobility of lecturers

ordinary costs - ECU  
borne by Federation/Länder/grants

additional costs:

travel expenses per lecturer 600 ECU  
annual cost for 4 lecturers 2,400 ECU

(c) creation of trainee posts with the European Communities

annual cost of 20 places 8,000 ECU

(d) organizational aid

(coordinator) 20,000 ECU

631,000 ECU

